SUNDAY SERMON

A Scholarly Discourse By Dr. R. A. Torrey.

New York City.—The Rev. Reuben A. Torrey, D. D., the celebrated evangelist, preached Sunday morning in the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. There was a large congregation, especially almost entirely of strangers, only a very small percentage being members of the church. Dr. Torrey's subject was: "The Resurrection a Fact, not Fiction," and his text was 1 Cor. xv. 4 . . . "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that slept." He said:

Last Sunday morning we said that the resurrection of Jesus was the most important event in history, and we said that if it could be proved to be a historic fact that everything essential to Christianity was proved, but that if, on the other hand, it could not be proved to be a historic fact, then everything essential to Christianity must be given up as started out, without assuming anything as to the truth or falsity of the records that were written, to decide whether they were historic facts, or merely fiction. First, we discovered that the four records we have of this event are independent, and we were driven to the conclusion that they were not written at second hand. Next, we discovered that each bore the evidences of having been written by an eye witness. It often happens that a witness tells his story so differently from with such an entire absence of any apparent collusion, that his testimony carries weight. We have not only one witness, but four, differing apparently in details (showing that there was no collusion), but agreeing in the essential facts, and each one's story bearing marks of artless simplicity, and of such a nature as to the conclusion that the story of the risen Lord could be true